

## **ISST 2-6-2004 Call Summary**

### **Team members present (P) and not present (NP):**

(P) Brad Colman (team leader) – WFO Seattle  
(P) Peter Manousos (backup team leader) – NCEP/HPC  
(P) Dan Baumgardt – WFO LaCrosse  
(P) Mark Jackson – WFO Salt Lake City  
(P) Steve Keighton – WFO Blacksburg  
(P) Andy Patrick – WFO Corpus Christi  
(P) Eric Stevens – WFO Fairbanks  
(P) Bill Ward – PRHQ  
(P) Kevin Schrab (facilitator) – OST/PPD/PMB

Guests:

Bob Glahn (MDL)  
Dave Ruth (MDL)  
Valery Dagostaro (MDL)

### **Verification Plan review with MDL**

#### **Background**

The National Verification Integrated Work Team's "[Plan For Verification Of Forecasts in the National Digital Forecast Database](#)" was released in January 2004. The ISST has reviewed it and had questions about the plan. The ISST has been asked to assign priorities to the actions/tasks in the plan.

#### **Discussion**

This item took up most of the time for the call. The current MDL verification system was contrasted against the future system proposed in the plan. MDL indicated that the current system could be improved, but to meet the needs at both the national and local (WFO) level a new, more comprehensive system is really needed. The current system could be modified to output some verification grids that could probably be imported to AWIPS/GFE rather easily. But having a more robust system locally would allow more flexibility and options that anything that could likely be developed from the current system. Work will continue on the current system in an attempt to improve it and verify additional elements.

MDL made it clear that additional resources would be needed to start work on the future system. They agreed that FSL would need to be involved in developing the future system since it would be integrated into AWIPS/GFE. The ISST and MDL agreed that a National Verification Committee (or some single program manager) needs to be established to take this plan and generate an implementation plan.

Another problem seems to be that there is no apparent requirement to perform gridded verification of the NDFD (or any verification of the NDFD, other than PFM's).

The ISST mentioned that the Technology Steering Team probably needs to be aware of this plan since there will be a large impact in the technology area (AWIPS, GFE, web). The ISST will look at what it sees as local and national requirements for improving the current MDL verification system and the future verification described in the plan.

## **ISST Forum - we need to pick a date and decide on how to call for agenda items**

### Background

The ISST Forum is held after the regular briefings to the S&T Committee. See the original description and other information at [here](#).

### Discussion

It was decided to have the Forum on March 4, 2004. An announcement will be sent out early next week.

## **NWP Issues**

### Background

Questions continue to surface about what Eta and GFS data will be available when.

### Discussion

The team will continue to investigate. One important change to note: the 8-day Eta extension has now been renamed as the Downscaled GFS with Eta eXtension (DGEX). This places the emphasis on the fact that the Eta extension is running to essentially downscale the GFS output. More information on the DGEX is available on the ISST webpage.